

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

AUG 31 2006

-2-

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) A jewelry design for adorning an ear, comprising:
 - a conically-shaped stud mounting extending conically outward from a conical point to form a conical basket for securing a stone therein, a post with a near end attached to the conical point and a far end, and a nut engagable with the far end of the post for securing the stud mounting to an ear, wherein the stud mounting has at least two wires forming the conical basket;
 - a dangling element for suspension below the stud mounting;
 - an intermediary connecting member having a center aperture adapted to allow the post to be inserted therethrough and of size to allow a portion of the conical basket to also extend therethrough, wherein the intermediary connecting member removably engages the conical basket and includes legs that together surround the conical basket, and a plurality of notches, where each wire of the conical basket is removably received by a corresponding notch, and which where the intermediary connecting member includes a portion for flexibly supporting the dangling element so that the dangling element is below the stud mounting.
3. (Currently amended) The jewelry design of claim 4, wherein the dangling element has a wire attachment extending therefrom, and wherein the portion comprises a jump ring that engages the wire attachment.
4. (Previously presented) A jewelry design for adorning an ear, comprising:
 - a conically-shaped stud mounting extending conically outward from a conical point to form a conical basket for securing a stone therein, a post with a near end attached to the

-3-

conical point and a far end, and a nut engagable with the far end of the post for securing the stud mounting to an ear, wherein the stud mounting has three wires forming the conical basket;

a dangling element for suspension below the stud mounting; and an intermediary connecting member which removably engages an exterior surface of the conical basket, and which includes a portion for flexibly supporting the dangling element so that the dangling element is removably suspendable below the stud mounting, wherein the intermediary connecting member removably engages the wires forming the conical basket, and wherein the intermediary connecting member is disposed behind the stud mounting, and wherein the intermediary connecting member has three legs, each of which is connected to the other two legs at a point so as to form a triangular shape.

5. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 4, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a notch formed at each of the three points where the legs are connected to each other for engaging a respective one of the three wires forming the conical basket.
6. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 5, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a beveled area formed in the center of each of the three legs so that the intermediary connecting member does not engage the stone when the jewelry design is worn.
7. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 3, wherein stud mounting further includes a wire seat attached to an inner surface of the conical basket and to which the stone is secured.

-4-

8. (Previously presented) A jewelry design for adorning an ear, comprising:
- a conically-shaped stud mounting extending conically outward from a conical point to form a conical basket for securing a stone therein, a post with a near end attached to the conical point and a far end, and a nut engagable with the far end of the post for securing the stud mounting to an ear, wherein the stud mounting has four wires forming the conical basket;
 - a dangling element for suspension below the stud mounting; and
 - an intermediary connecting member which removably engages an exterior surface of the conical basket, and which includes a portion for flexibly supporting the dangling element so that the dangling element is removably suspendable below the stud mounting, wherein the intermediary connecting member removably engages the wires forming the conical basket, and wherein the intermediary connecting member is disposed behind the stud mounting, and wherein the intermediary connecting member has four legs, each of which is connected to two legs at a point so as to form a square shape.
9. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 8, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a notch formed at each of the four points where the legs are connected to each other for engaging a respective one of the four wires forming the conical basket.
10. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 9, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a beveled area formed in the center of each of the four legs so that the intermediary connecting member does not engage the stone when the jewelry design is worn.

-5-

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The jewelry design of claim 2, wherein the intermediary connecting member engages the wires so as to inhibit rotation of the intermediary connecting member relative to the conical basket.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)